

Capsule Summary  
SM-729  
Cardinal Gibbons Institute Memorial  
St. Inigoes Vicinity  
Private/Public

c. 1990

Although dedicated on September 1, 1990, the Cardinal Gibbons Memorial represents a fitting memorial to an educational venture that educated generations of African-Americans from all over St. Mary's County and Southern Maryland. Named after Catholic Cardinal Gibbons, the school was first conceived of in 1916. Due to delays, however, the school was not opened until 1924 as an institute that offered a wide array of courses that covered academic as well as agricultural and industrial training at the high school level. The Institute's first two teachers, Mr. Victor H. Daniel and his wife, had received degrees from the prestigious Tuskegee Institute and curriculum at Cardinal Gibbons closely followed the example set forth by this now famous school.

The school building itself was an imposing two story, stone structure with a hipped roof. Unfortunately, in 1967, the Institute had to close its doors due to small enrollments and increasing costs of upkeep. In 1972, the school building was demolished erasing much of the evidence of the Cardinal Gibbons Institute. Today the memorial memorializes the contributions of the Institute to the education of local African-Americans. Fittingly, the memorial is topped by the distinctive cupola of the now demolished school building.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-729

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Cardinal Gibbons Institute Memorial

other

### 2. Location

street and number Approx. ¼ mile S of the int. of Point Lookout and St. Peter Claver Roads not for publication

city, town St. Inigoes x vicinity

county St. Mary's

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name The Most Reverend R.C. Archbishop William Baum

street and number PO Box 240 telephone N/a

city, town St. Inigoes state Md zip code 20684

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse tax map and parcel TM-70, P-1

city, town Leonardtown liber 134 folio 100

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____ structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	_____ Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			_____ 0

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. SM-729

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### Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Memorial commemorating the Cardinal Gibbons Institute is located approximately ¼ mile S of the intersection of St. Peter Claver and Point Lookout Roads on St. Peter Claver Road. Presently situated in a public park consisting of ball fields, a picnic area, basketball courts, and other recreational facilities, the structure is oriented on an east west axis. The memorial is approached via a dirt drive that extends southward from St. Peter Claver Road. While playing areas nearly encircle the memorial, a wooded tract extends to the west.

The Memorial itself is a four sided, square plan, brick structure topped by the Institute's original (c. 1924) cupola. Designed to imitate a church steeple, the structure's first floor is unencumbered by doors or windows and instead features a number of open archways that permit access to a plaque commemorating the memorial's erection on September 1, 1990. Above each of the archways is a cross consisting of privacy glass cubes. The smaller second part of the structure is punctuated by openings on its north and south sides. The east side features the letters "CGI MEMORIAL." The third and last part of the memorial is the cupola. This octagonal frame structure exhibits distinctive louvers that imitate fish scales. This component is topped by a pyramidal roof with bellcast eaves.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. MS-729

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. SM-729

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre  
Acreage of historical setting 1 acre  
Quadrangle name St. Mary's City

Quadrangle scale: 1: 24 000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Cardinal Gibbons Institute Memorial is situated in the middle of a public park leased by St. Mary's County from the Catholic Archdiocese. Only one acre immediately around the memorial was surveyed. This acre largely consists of playing fields, a dirt drive and parking area, and a picnic shelter and basketball courts.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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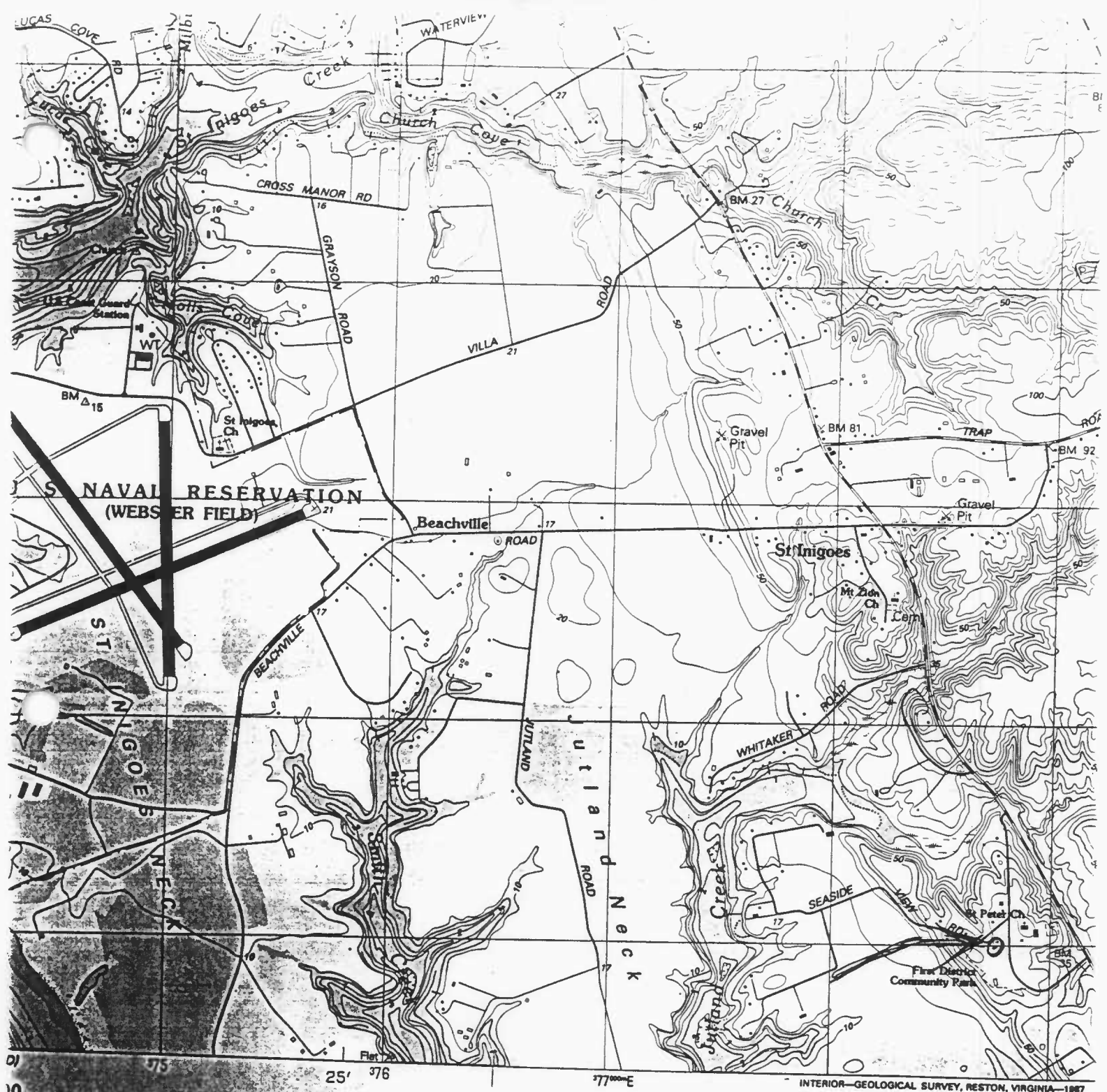
name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

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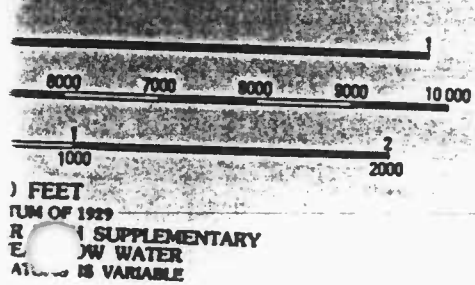
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

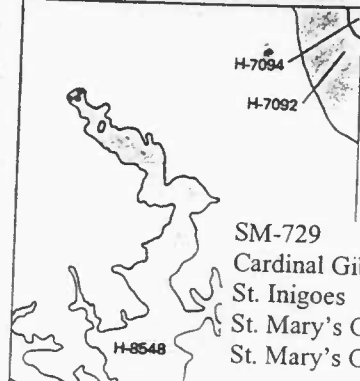
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1987



**NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE  
HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY INDEX**



SM-729  
Cardinal Gibbons Institute Memorial  
St. Inigoes  
St. Mary's County  
St. Mary's City Quad

**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

- Primary highway, hard surface .....
- Secondary highway, hard surface .....
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface .....
- Unimproved road .....
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State R.

**ST. MARYS CITY,**

38076-B4-TB-024

1987

DMA 5760 III NEW SERIES



CM-729

Cardinal Gibbons Institute Memorial

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Parnitzke

Nov/99

Md SHPO

Looking SW

loft